



U.S. Department of Justice

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MEDIA RELEASE
For Immediate Release
October 3, 2003

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**MANCHESTER MAN PLEADS
GUILTY TO MARIJUANA CULTIVATION**

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – United States Attorney Tom Colantuono, Drug Enforcement Administration Resident Agent in Charge Leo Ducey, Hillsborough Police Chief Robert B. Stafford, Jr. and N.H. Fish and Game Director Lee Perry announced that Marc C. Birmingham, age 50, of Manchester, New Hampshire pled guilty today in U.S. District Court in connection with the cultivation of a marijuana field in Hillsborough, New Hampshire in August, 2002. Birmingham admitted his guilt to the charge during a hearing before U. S. District Judge Steven J. McAuliffe. He was detained pending a sentencing hearing which is scheduled for January 21, 2004.

United States Attorney Colantuono stated, "Crimes such as this impact communities and place costs on society. One of the highest priorities of the United States Attorney's Office is to continue to seek ways to prevent and reduce crime through the aggressive prosecution of these cases. This case is just one example of our continued dedication to that mission."

The successful prosecution of this case resulted from the efforts of the Hillsborough Police Department, the Drug Enforcement Administration and the N.H. Fish and Game Department. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert J. Veiga.